Volunteer
Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania

Volunteer is a newsletter published monthly for Arboretum volunteers.

The Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania is an historic public garden and educational institution. It promotes an understanding of the relationship between plants, people, and place through programs that integrate science, art, and the humanities. The Arboretum conducts four major activities: education, research, outreach, and horticultural display. As the official Arboretum of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania provides research and outreach services to state agencies, community institutions and to citizens of Pennsylvania and beyond.

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Volunteer
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Photos: Jennie Ciborowski, unless otherwise stated

Cover Photo: Last July my first Volunteer publication had a picture of a poppy on the cover. I think it is only fitting to close out my run by showcasing Papaver orientale, oriental poppy, this time around.

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Rhododendron ‘Sherwoodi’ Sherwood azalea

Allium giganteum giant allium
Letter from the Editor

It is hard to fathom that this is my last publication of Volunteer Newsletter. I have truly enjoyed keeping the volunteers informed of Arboretum ongoings and most of all having an excuse to brush up on my nature photography skills. Meeting each and every one of you over this past year has been a blessing. Thank you all for being with me on the wonderful journey that is the internship program at Morris Arboretum.

Many of you have asked in passing what is up next for me. My honest answer is that I do not know. What I can tell you though, is that this is the first time in my life that I haven’t been scared to venture into the unknown. This past year has given me the time to reflect on what I really want in a career. This year is the first time since kindergarten that I wasn’t counting down the days until the end of school. In fact, this is day number 351 of my internship and I still woke up excited to go to work. This job took things that I cared deeply about and allowed me to explore and work on them everyday. I am one of the lucky people that had the chance to follow my passion not just as a hobby, but as a career.

I believe everything happens for a reason and eventually I will stumble upon my next plan in life. In the meantime, the Visitor Experience team was kind enough to let me work part time at the Arboretum. Make sure to stop in to the gift shop or the kiosk and fill me in on all of your wonderful volunteering adventures!

Until next time,
Jennie Ciborowski
The McLean Contributionship
Endowed Education Intern

1) Acer palmatum 'Kawahara Rose' 2) The Long Fountain
3) Dianthus gratianopolitanus
Notes from the Guides Chair

A Day at the University of Pennsylvania Museum

On a beautiful spring day in early May, I joined 10 other adventurers on an Arboretum sponsored tour of the Penn Museum. We were greeted by Dr. Peter Cobb, an archaeologist and ceramics specialist. He has done extensive work in western Turkey where he studied the distribution of Bronze Age ceramics. Dr. Cobb applies digital techniques to his analysis of ancient ceramics, focusing on the 3D scanning and analysis of ceramic shards. He has worked hard to make available a vast range of digital content related to archaeology and anthropology.

Next is where the real fun began as we got to go “behind the scenes” to see things not viewed on an average tour. First up was a department where the study of broken dog bones from ancient Panama was taking place. The expert explained that much can be learned about the lives of people from studying dog bones. We then learned about petrography, which is the microscopic examination of thin sections of pottery shards for the purpose of identifying their mineral composition. This can provide clues to the skills and knowledge of a society.

Next we met an archaeobotanist, someone who studies the remains of plants from archaeological sites. Currently being studied are plant remains from Bartram’s Garden as many specimens were found well-preserved in an attic. This specialty studies the relationship between plants and people – i.e. did people use the plants for food, medicine, or other purposes. The museum has a huge database of plants online from places as far away as Jordan, Israel, and Greece.

Our final stop was at the conservation department where a team of experts cleans and repairs artifacts that will eventually be included in the exhibits. The most interesting artifact to me was the mummy of a small child – the mummy was x-rayed so you could see the entire skeletal structure of the body. We were told that the mummy will next be given an MRI to find out even more information about the body.

Lastly, we were treated to a tour of important trees on the beautiful university campus. The tour was led by Robert Wells, Associate Director of Arboriculture Outreach at Morris Arboretum. Mr. Wells discussed numerous examples of the stewardship responsibilities that we emphasize so frequently in our tours. For example, a lovely grove of American elms has been protected from Dutch Elm Disease through a diligent regimen of care including the application of fungicides, winter injections, and timely pruning. In addition, Mr. Wells described the successful re-routing of pipes that were part of the construction of a new water main. The pipes were originally scheduled to go directly through a cluster of historic trees, but due to the intervention of university arborists a better plan was devised. The pipes were carefully laid underneath the roots of the trees and no damage was done.

All and all a very enjoyable and educational day – if the trip is offered next year, I would highly recommend signing up! It is finally beginning to feel like summer – enjoy the weather and your tours!

Joan Kober
Volunteer Workshops and Opportunities

**Book Club: Grandma Gatewood’s Walk by Ben Montgomery**

June 1st | 1:00 p.m. | Gates Hall Conference Room


Emma Gatewood told her family she was going on a walk and left her small Ohio hometown with a change of clothes and less than two hundred dollars. The next anybody heard from her, this genteel, farm-reared, 67-year-old great-grandmother had walked 800 miles along the 2,050-mile Appalachian Trail. Grandma Gatewood became the first woman to hike the entire Appalachian Trail alone, as well as the first person – man or woman – to walk it two and three times.

The public attention she brought back in 1955 to the little-known footpath was unprecedented. Her vocal criticism led to bolstered maintenance, and very likely saved the trail from extinction. The story of Grandma Gatewood will inspire readers by illustrating the full power of human spirit and determination.

Next up after summer break: September 7th - Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer

**Hidden Gems Tour**

Saturday, June 2nd | 11:00 a.m. | Widener Terrace

This tour is a combination of structures, sculptures, trees, and vistas. See these garden gems that are off the beaten path or hidden to most visitors, plus a few that are “hidden” in plain view.
Volunteer Workshops and Opportunities

First Wednesday Workshops

12:30 p.m. | Widener Terrace

Join us the first Wednesday of every month for exciting workshops, talks, and tours.

June 6th | Lucy Dinsmore - What’s Blooming in the Azalea Meadow
July 11th | Shelley Dillard - Behind the Scenes in the Greenhouse

Dogs and Barks Tour

Saturdays, June 9th & 23rd | 11:00 a.m. | Widener Terrace

Come see dogwoods in many shapes and forms while you celebrate the Chinese Year of the Dog in 2018. This tour will feature trees, shrubs, spring bloomers, summer bloomers, and more! Then explore the artistry of tree barks of many kinds of trees from all over the world - from beech to filbert, hickory, and lace-bark pine to noticeably different barks on the beloved dogwoods. Last chance before the summer hiatus; tour will resume in September.

Great Trees Tour

Saturday, July 7th | 11:00 a.m. | Widener Terrace

Learn more about some of the finest specimens in the Arboretum’s collection of magnificent trees. See old trees, trees from far away continents, and trees native to Pennsylvania.
Thank you so much to all of the volunteers that helped out with our annual Arbor Day program. The program could not run smoothly without all of your hard work. Guides have also been busy leading weekend tours. Pat Moir captured them in action the other week during the Dogs & Barks Tour. Make sure you don't miss learning about the Arboretum by attending future weekend tours!
Volunteers who have worked over 30 hours during the past year may take Morris Arboretum classes at a discounted price. Please refer to the Volunteer Price Spreadsheet in the Education Office for a complete list of volunteer class pricing. To sign up for a class please call (215) 247-5777 ext. 125.

Continuing Education

**Birding at the Arboretum: A Local Hotspot**  
Ruth Pfeffer, *Expert Birder and Trip Leader*  
**Tuesday, June 5 | 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.**

Explore some of the nesting bird hotspots at Morris Arboretum. We will visit the Arboretum's natural areas including wetlands, meadows, and the woodlands along the Wissahickon Creek. We will see resident birds as well as migrating raptors, sparrows, and warblers. This session is for beginning and experienced bird watchers alike.  
**Volunteer price: $13.00**

**Digital Photography: A Perspective for Beginners**  
Dr. Robert E. Lyons, *Professor Emeritus, University of Delaware*  
**Saturday, June 16 | 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

This workshop is intended primarily for beginners, and will focus on using your camera to capture moments in your personal landscape. This example-driven class provides understandable and useful information to create images for framing, teaching, and personal enjoyment.  
**Volunteer price: $27.00**

**Planting a Miniature Hosta Container**  
Nicky Beadle, *Pennsylvania Certified Horticulturist*  
**Saturday, June 16 | 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon**

Enjoy planting your own colorful and long-lasting container garden using specially selected miniature hostas. These hostas can have the same great characteristics as a larger hostas, but their tiny size makes them more versatile. Create a beautiful container garden that you can take home and enjoy for years!  
**Volunteer price: $50.00**

**Art Explorations in Nature (Ages 3-5)**  
Rachel Applegate, *Art Educator*  
**Four Thursdays, July 5, 12, 19, 26 | 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.**

Encourage your child or grandchild to engage with the outdoors through discovery and creativity in this four-week art series. We will observe the natural world, find joy in the process, and create nature-inspired art. From painting to printing, children will experiment with a variety of natural materials to develop self-expression and fine motor skills.  
**Volunteer price: $85.00**
On a warm and drizzly Sunday in June, 1902, John T. Morris, his sister Lydia and sister-in-law Jennie went to church with twenty of their relatives, as special guests of the Tulpehocken Reformed Church. The pews were jam-packed with well over 1,000 people. The service was jam-packed with anthems, scripture readings, congregational hymns, and several addresses. And on the altar table was a huge vase jam-packed with 157 red roses.

Toward the end of the service, the roses were given to the guests from Philadelphia as payment of a debt. Turns out, the church was years behind—157 years to be exact—on its annual rent of a single red rose payable to descendants of Caspar Wistar, the lessor of the church property. And on that auspicious Sunday, the church repented of its rent arrears by holding an extraordinary service, the “Feast of the Roses.”

A more permanent symbol of the occasion was also dedicated that day—a stained glass window with a single red rose in the center, designed by Frances Darby Sweeny, faculty member of the Pennsylvania Museum’s School of Industrial Art and owner of the Decorative Glass Company.

It should come as no surprise that the window was paid for by John T. Morris, given his high regard for his family’s legacy of benevolence in the Philadelphia region. He considered the window a fitting tribute to his great-great-grandfather Wistar, who set aside 100 acres for the congregation in 1745, asking only for a floral token in return each year.

It also comes as no surprise that roses were a favorite flower of Lydia T. Morris’s, so much so that she once ordered the flower garden dug up and replanted with nothing but roses—493 to be exact. Great floribunda!

And each June, the Arboretum continues to recognize the importance of roses at a gala called “Moonlight & Roses.” View photos of Lydia’s rose garden here. Read more about Caspar Wistar’s quit-rent of one red rose here.
Garden Highlights

Salvia nutans
nodding sage
Maloney Garden

Amsonia hubrichtii
Arkansas amsonia
Azalea Meadow

x Sinocalycanthus raulstonii ‘Hartlage Wine’
Hartlage Wine Raulston allspice
Outside the Pennock Garden

Viburnum plicatum
Japanese snowball viburnum
Outside the Pennock Garden

Digitalis
foxglove
Pennock Garden

Nectaroscordum siculum
Mediterranean Bells Allium
Rose Garden
## Upcoming Events

### June 2018

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<td>Saturday Morning Live Tour 11 am</td>
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<td>Guide Council 1:30 pm</td>
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<td>Horticulture Volunteers with Lucy Dinsmore</td>
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<td>Grist Mill Demonstration 1 pm</td>
<td>New Interns Arrive</td>
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<td>Horticulture Volunteers with Kate Deregibus</td>
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<td>Dogs and Barks Tour 11 am</td>
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<td>Horticulture Volunteers with Jess Slade</td>
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### Weekly Volunteer Events

**Wednesdays:** Horticulture Volunteers 8:30 am - 12 noon, Garden stays open until 8 p.m.

**Saturdays and Sundays:** Regular Tour 2:00 - 3:00 pm, Garden opens at 8 a.m.
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#### July 2018

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|        |        |         |           |          |        | Nature Play  
         |        |         |           |          |        | 11 am  
         |        |         |           |          |        | Saturday Morning Live  
         |        |         |           |          |        | Tour 11 am  |
| 8      | 9      | 10      | 11        | 12       | 13     | 14       |
|        |        |         | Horticulture Volunteers with Lucy Dinsmore |        |        |          |
| 15     | 16     | 17      | 18        | 19       | 20     | 21       |
|        | Grist Mill Demonstration 1 pm |         | Horticulture Volunteers with Louise Clarke |        |        |          |
| 22     | 23     | 24      | 25        | 26       | 27     | 28       |
|        |        |         | Horticulture Volunteers with Kate Deregibus |        |        |          |
| 29     | 30     | 31      |           |          |        |          |

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